



Arlington Poet Laureate Committee

Poet Laureate Committee meeting

June 15, 2016

8 AM

Second floor conference room, Town Hall Annex

Present: Liza Halley (chair), John Burt (secretary), Jane Howard, Pamela Powell

1. Timeline for replacement of Poet Laureate

Current laureate Miriam Levine plans to step down in June 2017. We will have a month long window for call for applicants. Post in the Advocate, the poet laureate website, the library newsletter and other media in town. Interviews and references will follow. Will need to have our appointment approved by the Board of Selectmen in June 2017. Meet in February to review guidelines and materials from last time. Prepare P.R. in March. P.R. goes out April 15. Personally invite the former candidates. Applications due May 15. Interviews done by end of May (week of May 22).

2. Grants and Honoraria

Are we the applicant, or is the poet laureate. Jane will ask the Town Manager. Liza will write the rough draft of the application to the Arlington Cultural Council (deadline October 15) in July. They don't give a lot of money, but we don't need a lot of money. Money for awards and possibly to remunerate the judges (Liza will ask Miriam for details). Also to repay Miriam for expenses (such as preparing materials). Liza will speak to Adam about how much we should consider asking for and whom we might approach. Are there local sponsors (such as realtors or banks) who might be interested? Might someone want to make a bequest when the position is more established? Ideally we would have about \$2000 for this purpose. Pam will feel out some Arlington businesses. Miriam will give us some talking points to use, as will the Library director.

3. Town Day Event.

Geraldine Tremblay has asked if we would again like to have the Poet Laureate appear. (Yes, assuming Miriam agrees.) Is Miriam available?

4. Lunch meeting with Miriam.

Pam will organize it for June 27 if possible.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40